



CITY OF PORTLAND
Police Department
Frank T. Clark, Chief of Police

By email

November 27, 2019

Lucy Parsons Labs
MuckRock News
82758-65749339@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Ms. Labs:

I am writing in response to your request under Maine's Freedom of Access Act, 1 M.R.S. §401, *et. seq.* for police data regarding search warrants obtained by the Portland Police Department from January, 2012 to November, 2019, including:

Full Name of requester
If arrest, arrest ID (e.g. some cities/states use, "Incident Report")
Reason(s) for search warrant (typically either hand-written, or checkboxes)
Badge ID (or similar) of requester
District/Unit
Name of Judge
Name of approving officer
Whether an Arrest happened
Requested location of search warrant
Location of search warrant execution
Type of search warrant
Statements used to justify search warrant
Time and date when search warrant was submitted for approval
Time and date when search warrant was executed
Whether anything was seized
Whether anything was found
License plate of vehicle (if relevant)
Race of person for search warrant
Age of person for search warrant
State of person for search warrant
Whether an informant was involved
Method of contact with informant leading to search warrant (e.g., phone call, mail, fax, email, etc)

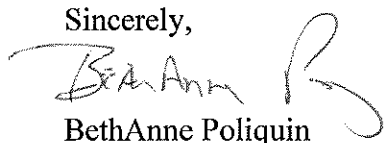
Description of person search warrant executed on
Legal code of violation
Description of violation
Date of violation
If search warrant related to debt: name of company debt is owed to, amount owed
Whether FBI involved
ID associated with FBI document (e.g., IR #)
Whether search warrant was cancelled
Whether contraband found
Whether narcotics found

Pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. §402, “the term ‘public record’ means any written, printed or graphic matter or any mechanical or electronic data compilation from which information can be obtained, directly or after translation into a form susceptible of visual or aural comprehension, that is in the possession or custody of an agency or public official of this State or any of its political subdivisions ... and has been received or prepared for use in connection with the transaction of public or governmental business or contains information relating to the transaction of public or governmental business.

The Portland Police Department does not keep a record of search warrants categorized and classified in the particularized data fields that you have outlined in your request. The warrants are filed with the case for which the warrant was generated. The department does not maintain electronic data, spreadsheets or other database formats for this type of information. Collating the type of information that you have requested would be time consuming, expensive, and would, in most cases, require a hand search of police department records. There is no requirement for a municipality to research or create a record (digital, electronic or otherwise) in order to satisfy a FOAA request.

The Maine District Court Judicial Branch may keep a separate record of search warrants reviewed and signed by a Judge.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in regards to this matter. I can be reached at 207-874-8599.

Sincerely,

BethAnne Poliquin
Police Attorney

cc: Frank Clark, Chief of Police
Danielle West-Chuhta, Corporation Counsel
Jessica Grondin, Director of Communications